

Ser. No. 09/937,373

#### Remarks

Claims 22-42 were pending in the application. Claims 22-42 were rejected. No claims were merely objected to and no claims were allowed. By the foregoing amendment, claims 22, 26, 30, 31, 35, and 40 are amended, no claims are canceled, and no claims are added. No new matter is presented.

#### Interview Summary

A telephonic interview was held September 24, 2004 between Examiner C. Lugo, inventor D.G. More, and attorney W. Slate. The orientation of McNenny as opening longitudinally and not radially and Barbarou (see also Delgado) as open radially inwardly and not outward was discussed. The examiner proposed adding the clarifying language currently added to claim 22. He also requested addition of such language to claim 26. The examiner simultaneously proposed the related addition of the axis 500 in FIG. 2. These changes were agreed to.

Although the attorney had indicated Barbarou as lacking a copper plating, the examiner indicated the related rejection (e.g., of claim 23) was moot in view of the overcoming of the rejection of the base claim. Accordingly, no substantive agreement was reached.

The ridge thickness issue was discussed relative to claim 35. The examiner concurred that the Fages, Delgado, de Villepoix et al. ... seals featured outer member thickness along the ridges which was no greater than the original constant outer member thickness prior to machining of the ridges. The examiner proposed and attorney agreed to the clarifying changes to claim 35. It was additionally agreed that similar language would be incorporated into claims 30 and 40. In view of the amendment to claim 30, a corresponding recitation has been deleted from its dependent claim 31 and a material identification from claim 24 has been inserted merely to preserve the claim. A signed copy of the Form 413A is attached.

#### The Drawings

Submitted herewith is replacement sheet 2 reflecting the addition of axis 500 to FIG. 2 as noted above. The axis 500 appears in FIG. 1. In order to include the axis in FIG. 2, it is understood that the spacing between the axis and the seal body is compressed relative to that of FIG. 1.

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Claim Rejections-35 U.S.C. 102

Claims 22 and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 3,272,521 of McNenny. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 22, 23, and 25 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by French patent no. 610,973 of Barbarou. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 26, 27, 29-33, and 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 3,188,100 of Delgado. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 35 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 4,561,662 of de Villepoix et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 35 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. patent no. 5,022,663 of Fages et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims Rejections- 35 U.S.C. 103

Claim 23 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McNenny in view of Barbarou. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McNenny in view of de Villepoix et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

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Claim 24 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barbarou in view of de Villepoix et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 28, 34, 38 and 39 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Delgado in view of de Villepoix et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 30-34 and 37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over de Villepoix et al. in view of U.S. patent no. 6,357,759 of Azuma et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 30-33 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fages et al. in view of Azuma et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 34 and 38 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fages et al. in view of Azuma et al. and further in view of de Villepoix et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over de Villepoix et al. in view of Barbarou. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claim 39 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as unpatentable over Fages et al. in view of Barbarou. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

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Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over McNenny in view of Halling. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Barbarou in view of Halling. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

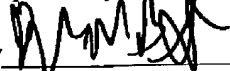
Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Delgado in view of Halling. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over de Villepoix et al. in view of Halling. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Claims 40-42 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Fages et al. in view of Halling. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection. In view of the interview discussion, above, the rejection is believed overcome.

Accordingly, Applicant submits that claims 22-42 are in condition for allowance. Please charge any fees or deficiency or credit any overpayment to our Deposit Account 02-0184.

Respectfully submitted,

By   
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Date: September 27, 2004

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U.S. Patent and Trademark Office: U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

### Applicant Initiated Interview Request Form

Application No.: 09/937,373 First Named Applicant: Dominick G. More  
Examiner: Carlos Lugo Art Unit: 3676 Status of Application: Final Rejection

#### Tentative Participants:

(1) Atty. W.B. Slate (2) Inventor D.G. More  
(3) Ex. C. Lugo (4)

Proposed Date of Interview: 9/24/04 Proposed Time: 10:30 (AM/PM)

#### Type of Interview Requested:

(1) ☒ Telephonic (2) ☐ Personal (3) ☐ Video Conference

Exhibit To Be Shown or Demonstrated: ☒ YES ☐ NO

If yes, provide brief description: Directional and thickness reference sketches (attached)

### Issues To Be Discussed

Issues (Rej., Obj., etc)	Claims/ Fig. #s	Prior Art	Discussed	Agreed	Not Agreed
(1) Rej.	22-25 40-42	McNenny	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(2) Rej.	22-25 39	Barbarou	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
(3) Rej.	many	Fages, etc.	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
(4)			<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

☐ Continuation Sheet Attached

#### Brief Description of Arguments to be Presented:

(1) McNenny opens longitudinally, not radially. (2a) Barbarou opens radially inward not outward. (2b) Barbarou lacks a copper plating. (3) Various (Fages, Delgado, DeVillepoix...) fail to disclose the claimed ridge thickness.

An interview was conducted on the above-identified application on 9/24/04.

**NOTE:** This form should be completed by applicant and submitted to the examiner in advance of the interview (see MPEP § 713.01).

This application will not be delayed from issue because of applicant's failure to submit a written record of this interview. Therefore, applicant is advised to file a statement of the substance of this interview (37 CFR 1.133(b)) as soon as possible.

Applicant/Applicant's Representative Signature

William B. Slate

Typed/Printed Name of Applicant or Representative

37,238

Registration Number, if applicable

Examiner/SPE Signature

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.133. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 21 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.